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Letter dated 21 November 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 8 October 1996 (A/51/487-S/1996/846), I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, which were recorded on 15 November 1996.

On that day, at 1220 hours, six Turkish Air Force jet fighters violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, entering the Nicosia flight information region, flying over the occupied areas of Cyprus without permission and exited at 1232 hours.

Such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the airspace of the Republic are in violation of international air traffic rules and seriously endanger civil aviation flights over Cyprus. At the same time, they heighten tension in Cyprus, as clearly acknowledged in the latest Security Council resolution on Cyprus (resolution 1062 (1996)) of 28 June 1996.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations